

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. TAKAHASHI et al.
Serial No.: Not yet assigned
Filed: On even date
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY

STATEMENT OF STATUS AND SUPPORT FOR CHANGES IN CLAIMS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 12, 2001

Sir:

The present reissue application is a broadened reissue application being filed within two years of the original patent issue date of October 12, 1999.

In the present reissue application, the original claims 1 to 3 and 5 to 9 are unchanged. Claim 4 has been amended to clarify the location of the third switching circuit connected between "said pair of first sub-common data lines" and the pair of main common data lines. Claim 4 has also been amended to define the location of the sixth switching circuit connected interposingly between "said pair of second sub-common data lines" and the pair of main common data lines. This amendment to claim 4 has been made for purposes of correcting an error in the original language which erroneously called for the connection of the third switching circuit and the sixth switching circuit between the pair of main common data lines. It is noted that support for claim 4, including

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including the revised language, is found generally in Figures 1 to 3 and in greater detail in Figures 5, 6 and 7(A) and the description thereof in the specification.

A second change to the claims in this reissue application is the addition of new claims 10-19. These claims correspond to the original claims 1-9, but have been broadened to delete the recitation of the phrase "pairs of" referred to in the original claims, for example, with regard to "a plurality of pairs of data lines." It is noted that support for the new claim language is also found generally in Figures 1 to 3 and in greater detail in Figures 5, 6 and 18-20, and in the description of these figures found in the specification.

It is noted that the reference to support for the claim language in the various figures is not intended to suggest that these figures represent the only support for the claim language, or that the invention is intended to be limited to the specific illustrations represented by these figures.

Respectfully submitted,

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T02T01-29542660